AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A holding device for chip cards for collection of travel data, comprising:

- a card holder arranged to guide a chip card between a removal position, a park position wherein read/write contacts are disconnected from the chip card, and a read/write position;
- a request element comprising actuation means;
- output means arranged to bring about a transfer of the chip card from the read/write position into the removal position after an actuation of the request element; and
- means for manipulation arranged within the card holder to,
    - o disconnect spring contacts of a set of read/write contacts from plate contacts of the chip card after the chip card has been input into the read/write position and after data has been read out from the input chip card;
    - o close the spring contacts after the request element has been actuated and the plate contacts of the chip card have been input; and
    - o trigger a release of the output means after travel data which has been collected in the meantime in a memory which is independent of the chip card has been written into the chip card.

2. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 1, further comprising:

- means for automatically inputting and outputting chip cards;
- a motor arranged within a movement space of the chip card, the movement space defining a transfer path for the chip card within the holding device which is longer than the length of the chip card;

- transfer means arranged within the movement space so as to be engaged by the motor;
- a switch arranged to signal an insertion and removal as well as a reaching of the read/write position by the chip card ;
- at least one further switch arranged to signal a disconnection of the plate contacts of the chip card from the spring contacts before a removal position has been reached, the at least one further switch being displaced in an output direction.

3. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the card holder is mounted in the holding device so as to be pivotable in such a way that the plate contacts of the chip card in the read/write position can be disconnected from spring contacts of a fixedly arranged set of read/write contacts.

4. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 3, further comprising a motor-actuated eccentric shaft assigned to the card holder.

5. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the set of read/write contacts is mounted so as to be moveable relative to the card holder.

6. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 5, wherein the set of read/write contacts is attached to a carriage which is displaceably assigned to the card holder.

7. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 1, wherein the card holder and the set of read/write contacts are attached to a same carrier, and the spring contacts of the set of read/write contacts can be raised or lowered at right angles to a chip card in the read/write position by means of an auxiliary force.

8. (previously presented) The holding device according to claim 7, further comprising:
- an actuation element arranged to connect free ends of the spring contacts of the set of read/write contacts;
- a printed circuit board; and

- an electromagnet comprising an armature, the electromagnet being attached to the printed circuit board and assigned to the set of read/write contacts such that the armature is operatively connected to the actuation element.